



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Press Release

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### **Idaho Potato Stocks Down 19 Percent from Last Year**

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers, and processors in Idaho on March 1 totaled 54.5 million cwt, 13.0 million cwt less than on hand March 1, 2010. This is the lowest March 1 stocks level since 1989. Disappearance, at 59.9 million cwt is down from last year's 65.0 million cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest counties totaled 2.10 million cwt, down from last year's 2.70 million cwt. The Other counties' stocks, at 52.4 million cwt, were down from the 64.8 million cwt stored on March 1, 2010. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon used 6.54 million cwt of 2010 crop raw potatoes during February, down 4.9 percent from February 2010. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon have used 39.2 million cwt of 2010 crop raw potatoes to March 1, down 6.7 percent from last year. Idaho potatoes accounted for 34.3 million cwt of the total processed. The remaining 4.97 million cwt were produced in other states.

Nationally, the 13 major potato States held 143 million cwt of potatoes in storage March 1, 2011, down 15 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 41 percent of the 2010 fall storage States' production, three percentage points below March 1, 2010. Potato disappearance, at 208 million cwt, was 3 percent below March 1, 2010. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 18.6 million cwt, was down 12 percent from the same date in 2010. Processors in the 9 major States have used 110 million cwt of potatoes this season, up 1.6 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 16.5 million cwt of the total processing, down 17 percent from last year.

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